

## Ozal wins confidence vote

ANKARA (R) — The new Turkish civilian government of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal won a parliamentary vote of confidence Saturday, giving it a clear mandate after more than three years of military rule. Mr. Ozal, whose cabinet was approved by President Kenan Evren earlier this month, had submitted his programme to the traditional vote in the new parliament which was formed after last month's elections, the first since the 1980 military coup. The programme was approved by 213 votes to 115, with 65 abstentions. Mr. Ozal's programme centres on a change towards a free market economy and the streamlining of the country's cumbersome bureaucracy. Six members did not attend Saturday's vote in the 399-seat parliament.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جريدة الأردن للصحافة العربية "الرأي"

Volume 8 Number 2448

AMMAN, SUNDAY-MONDAY DECEMBER 25-26, 1983 — RABIA AL AWWAL 20-21, 1404

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

## 3 Israelis wounded in Sidon attack

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — At least three Israeli soldiers were wounded Saturday when gunmen fired a rocket-propelled grenade at a patrol outside this southern Lebanese city, eyewitnesses said. They said ambulances and Israeli military vehicles rushed to the scene.

## Rifles from Israel intercepted in U.S.

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida (R) — U.S. customs officers Friday confiscated 12,000 rifles shipped here from Israel and apparently bound for Guatemala, a spokesman said. The rifles, old bolt-action models, were in four containers marked "machinery" offloaded from an Israeli freighter at Fort Lauderdale's Port Everglades. No arrests were reported and the customs spokesman said investigations were continuing.

## Guinea quake kills 143, injures 250

ABIDJAN (R) — Tremors continued to shake parts of Guinea after an earthquake Friday which killed 143 people and wounded 250. Conakry Radio said. The tremors, which occurred every six hours, were felt in the north-west of the West African country where the earthquake two days ago appeared to have been centred. The radio said earlier 200 people had died in the earthquake in the Gaoual area, some 300 kilometres from the capital, and that thousands had been left homeless. Earthquakes are rare in West Africa.

## 30 dead in Zimbabwe accident

HARARE (R) — At least 30 people were killed and 60 injured Saturday in a train accident near Zimbabwe's main coal mining town of Hwange, some 490 kilometres west of here, the Transport Ministry said. Zimbabwe's national news agency Zina quoted the ministry as saying the train, bound for Victoria Falls on the Zimbabwe-Zambia border, derailed at about 5.30 a.m. (0330 GMT). sabotage was not suspected.

## 8 arrested in Guyana plot

CLEVELAND, Ohio (R) — The arrests of eight people in the United States and Canada have ended a two-month investigation into an alleged plot to overthrow the government of Guyana, according to police. The arrests followed an investigation by Ontario provincial police and U.S. customs agents into "alleged criminal activities by the Conservative Party of Guyana (CPG)," a police spokesman said in Toronto.

## Strike hits Sabena

BRUSSELS (R) — The Belgian state airline Sabena cancelled all flights Saturday because of a 24-hour strike by pilots and flight technicians, an airline spokesman said.

## INSIDE

- Greece, Cyprus pledge to reverse Denktash declaration, page 2
- Jordan aims to improve agricultural production, marketing. Dudin says, page 3
- Palestinians see another Christmas without a homeland, page 4
- A day at the post office: A conquest Alexander the Great would have envied, page 5
- No clues yet in World Cup robbery, page 6
- U.S. underground economy estimated at 7.5 per cent of GNP, page 7
- Modern technology should aid the poor. Queen Elizabeth says, page 8

## PLO leader keeps world guessing on next stop

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's whereabouts remained unknown Saturday, two days after he held a dramatic meeting in Cairo with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Mr. Arafat was evacuated from the north Lebanese port of Tripoli last Tuesday after a six-week siege by Syrian-backed Palestinian rebels and sailed south from the Mediterranean into the Suez Canal before flying by helicopter to Cairo with Mr. Mubarak.

He was later reported to have reboarded the Greek ship *Odysses Elytis* which had brought him from Tripoli and was thought to be sailing on into the Red Sea en route for North Yemen, with a possible stop on the Saudi Arabian coast.

Saudi Arabian officials made no mention of Mr. Arafat's whereabouts or whether a meeting with King Fahd was possible.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials in Jeddah said they had not received any official word on his possible arrival in the Saudi port.

"We are waiting to hear either from Arafat or from Saudi officials," one PLO official in Jeddah told Reuters in Bahrain by telephone.

The official said the PLO representative in Riyadh, Rafik Shaker Natshe, went to Jeddah to receive Mr. Arafat if he arrived.

The Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) Friday night quoted informed sources as saying Mr. Arafat had left the Greek ship *Odysses Elytis* and was probably on his way to Saudi Arabia, his main financial supporter. But there was no confirmation.

The Greek ship is one of five which evacuated Mr. Arafat and his 4,000 men from northern Lebanon. Two of the ships ended their voyage at Larnaca, Cyprus, dropping off several hundreds Arafat loyalists.

The ship carrying Mr. Arafat, in a convoy of three, was said to be destined for Hodeidah, North Yemen, when it sailed through the Suez Canal into the Red Sea.

Mr. Arafat's talks with Mr. Mubarak, the president of the only Arab country that has signed a treaty with Israel, were condemned by various Palestinian leaders.

Radical leader George Habash, of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine in exile, said Mr. Arafat's stand toward the PLO as positive.

## Reagan: Lebanon no more an obstacle to peace process

By Michael Gelb

Reuter

WASHINGTON — President Reagan says the turmoil in Lebanon is no longer an obstacle to an overall Middle East peace settlement and he hopes Jordan and PLO leader Yasser Arafat will enter the peace process.

"I think enough progress has been made there (in Lebanon) that we can go forward with the peace movement," Mr. Reagan said in a White House interview on Friday with Reuters and other news services.

Asked if Thursday's meeting between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Arafat could mean a breakthrough enabling Jordan to join peace talks with Israel, he said: "I'm always a little leery about saying a breakthrough ... (but) we are optimistic about this."

He rejected Israeli suggestions that the Mubarak-Arafat meeting in Cairo violated the 1978 Camp David agreement that led to a separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

"As they (the Israelis) look at this a little more clearly, they will see that Mubarak,

## Britain welcomed Arafat-Mubarak meeting as positive, says Egypt

CAIRO (R) — Britain told Egypt Saturday that talks between Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Thursday were a positive contribution to peace in the Middle East, the Egyptian Foreign Ministry said.

The ministry statement followed talks between British Ambassador Michael Weir and Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali.

"The British ambassador has conveyed his government's conviction that Arafat's talks in Cairo were a positive contribution to peace efforts in the Middle East," it said.

Mr. Ghali also saw the Italian, American and French ambassadors to brief them on the outcome of the talks between Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Arafat, who visited Cairo while his ship was sailing through the Suez Canal on its way to North Yemen.

The Egyptian statement said, U.S. ambassador Nicholas Veliotes also expressed his government's "interest" in the Arafat-Mubarak talks "within the framework of Egypt's positive efforts to achieve a peaceful com-

eration of Palestine, demanded Mr. Arafat's removal from the PLO leadership and branded him the "Palestinian Sadat" in reference to the former Egyptian president who made the treaty with Israel.

Palestinian refugees in Tripoli, Mr. Arafat's former Lebanese stronghold, staged a demonstration Friday in protest against his Cairo visit.

They marched through the rubble-strewn streets of the Badawi camp and demanded Mr. Arafat be put on trial.

In Damascus, the main base of his rebel foes, Palestinian leaders denounced Mr. Arafat's move and demanded his dismissal from the PLO.

In what appeared to be the first official Saudi comment on Mr. Arafat's meeting with Mr. Mubarak, the Saudi Press Agency Saturday quoted an official source as saying Saudi Arabia's position with regard to the meeting "is in line with that of the legitimate PLO leadership."

### Government in exile

Mr. Arafat was quoted as saying Friday that he has become convinced of the need to form a Palestinian government in exile. Mr. Arafat told the Saudi Arabian newspaper *Al Yom* that the projected government will shoulder the task of pursuing the Palestinian political and military struggle in the coming stage in view of the recent events in Beirut and Tripoli.

The formation of a Palestinian government in exile will be on top of a Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting to be held in Algeria in February, Mr. Arafat said.

Interviewed aboard the ship carrying him through the Suez Canal, Mr. Arafat said that the coming stage of the Palestinian struggle will witness intensive political and diplomatic moves on the Arab and international levels reaching a climax at the PNC meeting.

He also described Saudi Arabia's stand toward the PLO as positive.

experience of Egypt and its willingness to go forward for peace, is simply trying to persuade others to change their thinking," Mr. Reagan said.

### Ball in Soviet court

He also rejected suggestions of a confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union and he repeated earlier predictions that Moscow would ultimately resume arms control negotiations in Geneva.

Moscow broke off talks on medium-range nuclear weapons in November after the arrival of new U.S. missiles in Britain and West Germany. It has also refused to set a date for the start of the next round of separate talks on long-range missiles.

Mr. Reagan defended his arms buildup, saying U.S. military strength was the only reason Moscow was talking at all.

"I believe we are further from a confrontation possibility because of the deterrent capability of the United States and our allies ... there was a far more unstable condition when we had let our own strength deteriorate," he said.

"I am prepared to say if the Soviet government wants peace, there will be no war, because I know for

a fact that no other country wants war with the Soviet Union. The ball is really in their court," he said.

### Optimism on initiative

U.S. officials have voiced growing hope that the split in the PLO that forced Mr. Arafat to quit Lebanon this week may have given new life to Mr. Reagan's Middle East peace initiative.

His plan, announced on Sept. 1, 1982, called for Palestinian self-rule in association with Jordan in territories now occupied by Israel and for a halt in new Israeli settlements in the occupied lands.

Mr. Reagan said Mr. Arafat and Jordan almost reached agreement last year to allow the kingdom to enter peace talks as representative of the Palestinians. The apparent accord was blocked at the last minute by hard-line elements in the PLO.

"Now, I think that what Mubarak is doing is talking to him (Arafat) about returning to where he was earlier, making contact with King Hussein and getting those peace negotiations, our peace proposal, underway again," Mr. Reagan said.

Asked if he thought there was a good chance of Jordan coming to

the peace table, he replied: "Yes, I do. I really do."

He conceded that Mr. Arafat had consistently refused to recognise Israel's right to exist but noted that Egypt had also once been an implacable foe of the Jewish state.

"Who is better able to try and bring another person into the peace process than someone who has made the change that Egypt has made?" he asked.

Friday's blast smashed the restaurant's seats, broke chairs and ripped curtains. Table clothes were spattered with blood and

and two Japanese.

The bomb, which had been packed with metal fragments, was placed outside one of the restaurant's windows.

No organisation has claimed responsibility for placing the bomb.

In a similar attack last month, another exclusive Paris restaurant, the *L'Orée du Bois*, was wrecked and 20 people were injured.

Thousands of tourists, West Bank residents, and Christian pil-

grims jammed into Bethlehem. A huge Christmas tree dominated the square, which serves as a parking lot during the rest of the year, and streetlights were festooned with streamers.

Among the visitors were several hundred sailors from the U.S. Sixth Fleet, which has been stationed off the Lebanon coast.

This is the first of three Christmas celebrations in Bethlehem. The Orthodox community — Syrians, Greeks and Copts — holds Christmas on Jan. 6, and the Armenian church celebrates 12 days later.

Despite the attacks, the Israeli Tourism Ministry said some 12,000 pilgrims from around the world had come to celebrate Christmas in Bethlehem, up from 8,000 last year.

Thousands of tourists, West Bank residents, and Christian pil-

grims jammed into Bethlehem. A huge Christmas tree dominated the square, which serves as a parking lot during the rest of the year, and streetlights were festooned with streamers.

Among the visitors were several hundred sailors from the U.S. Sixth Fleet, which has been stationed off the Lebanon coast.

This is the first of three Christmas celebrations in Bethlehem. The Orthodox community — Syrians, Greeks and Copts — holds Christmas on Jan. 6, and the Armenian church celebrates 12 days later.

Despite the attacks, the Israeli Tourism Ministry said some 12,000 pilgrims from around the world had come to celebrate Christmas in Bethlehem, up from 8,000 last year.

Thousands of tourists, West Bank residents, and Christian pil-

grims jammed into Bethlehem. A huge Christmas tree dominated the square, which serves as a parking lot during the rest of the year, and streetlights were festooned with streamers.

Among the visitors were several hundred sailors from the U.S. Sixth Fleet, which has been stationed off the Lebanon coast.

This is the first of three Christmas celebrations in Bethlehem. The Orthodox community — Syrians, Greeks and Copts — holds Christmas on Jan. 6, and the Armenian church celebrates 12 days later.

Despite the attacks, the Israeli Tourism Ministry said some 12,000 pilgrims from around the world had come to celebrate Christmas in Bethlehem, up from 8,000 last year.

Thousands of tourists, West Bank residents, and Christian pil-

grims jammed into Bethlehem. A huge Christmas tree dominated the square, which serves as a parking lot during the rest of the year, and streetlights were festooned with streamers.

Among the visitors were several hundred sailors from the U.S. Sixth Fleet, which has been stationed off the Lebanon coast.

This is the first of three Christmas celebrations in Bethlehem. The Orthodox community — Syrians, Greeks and Copts — holds Christmas on Jan. 6, and the Armenian church celebrates 12 days later.

Despite the attacks, the Israeli Tourism Ministry said some 12,000 pilgrims from around the world had come to celebrate Christmas in Bethlehem, up from 8,000 last year.

Thousands of tourists, West Bank residents, and Christian pil-

grims jammed into Bethlehem. A huge Christmas tree dominated the square, which serves as a parking lot during the rest of the year, and streetlights were festooned with streamers.

Among the visitors were several hundred sailors from the U.S. Sixth Fleet, which has been stationed off the Lebanon coast.

This is the first of three Christmas celebrations in Bethlehem. The Orthodox community — Syrians, Greeks and Copts — holds Christmas on Jan. 6, and the Armenian church celebrates 12 days later.

Despite the attacks, the Israeli Tourism Ministry said some 12,000 pilgrims from around the world had come to celebrate Christmas in Bethlehem, up from 8,000 last year.

Thousands of tourists, West Bank residents, and Christian pil-

grims jammed into Bethlehem. A huge Christmas tree dominated the square, which serves as a parking lot during the rest of the year, and streetlights were festooned with streamers.

Among the visitors were several hundred sailors from the U.S. Sixth Fleet, which has been stationed off the Lebanon coast.

This is the first of three Christmas celebrations in Bethlehem. The Orthodox community — Syrians, Greeks and Copts — holds Christmas on Jan. 6, and the Armenian church celebrates 12 days later.

Despite the attacks, the Israeli Tourism Ministry said some 12,000 pilgrims from around the world had come to celebrate Christmas in Bethlehem, up from 8,000 last year.

Thousands of tourists, West Bank residents, and Christian pil-

grims jammed into Bethlehem. A huge Christmas tree dominated the square, which serves as a parking lot during the rest of the year, and streetlights were festooned with streamers.

Among the visitors were several hundred sailors from the U.S. Sixth Fleet, which has been stationed off the Lebanon coast.

This is the first of three Christmas celebrations in Bethlehem. The Orthodox community — Syrians, Greeks and Copts — holds Christmas on Jan. 6, and the Armenian church celebrates 12 days later.

Despite the attacks, the Israeli Tourism Ministry said some 12,000 pilgrims from around the world had come to celebrate

# MIDDLE EAST

## France, Britain will maintain role in multinational force

**BEIRUT (R)** — Despite heightened concern for the safety of foreign troops in Beirut, the British and French defence ministers have reaffirmed their government's determination not to pull their men out of Lebanon.

Ministers from the two countries gave the pledges Friday during Christmas visits to their contingents in the Beirut Multinational Force.

French Defence Minister Charles Hernu was sent by President Francois Mitterrand after a truck-bomb attack on a French regimental command post on Wednesday killed a soldier and injured a dozen and caused heavy casualties among Lebanese civilians nearby.

British Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine, on a 70-minute visit to the 110-man British force, told reporters: "We do not even want to talk about pulling out."

Italian President Sandro Pertini said in Rome, however, that the

Italian contingent of the force should be withdrawn as it no longer had any clear significance after the departure of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and his men.

The British troops have suffered no casualties since arriving last February. But France's 2,000-strong force has lost 82 men and the latest truck-bombing was followed by a threat the French forces say they are not ignoring.

It was an ultimatum from the "Islamic Jihad" (Islamic holy war) group to French and American troops to leave Lebanon within 10 days or be hit by "real earthquake."

The group is believed responsible for all the bloody truck-bombings in Lebanon this year

against American, French and Israeli forces, and for bombing mainly French and American targets in Kuwait earlier this month.

The 1,500 U.S. Marines, already pinned down in a heavily fortified base at Beirut airport, have not commented on the threat. Their security has been under heavy scrutiny and criticism in the United States, but President Reagan said this week they would stay till their mission was accomplished or the Lebanese government sought their departure.

In a new security measure for the U.S. contingent, the Lebanese army Friday night ordered all commercial and fishing vessels to keep away from American warships off the coast and from the coastal area adjacent to the Marines' base.

Mr. Hernu, who is making an on-the-spot study of the security of the positions held by French troops, told the Lebanese defence minister France would not bow to

blackmail or be intimidated by attacks on its forces. Lebanese officials said.

But he and French chief of staff Gen. Jannou Lacaze held immediate talks with Defence Minister Izzam Khoury and army chief of staff Gen. Ibrahim Tannous on increasing security for the French soldiers.

Mr. Hernu, who also delivered a message from Mr. Mitterrand to Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, announced he would spend Christmas eve with French officers and paratroopers.

Mr. Hernu met Lebanese President Amin Gemayel Friday shortly after arriving in Beirut.

Mr. Hernu handed Mr. Gemayel a message from President Mitterrand and told reporters he had come at the urgent request of Gemayel and Gen. Lacaze to discuss increased security for France's 2,000-strong contingent.

## Polisario rebels seize 3 S. Korean sailors

**SEOUL (R)** — Polisario guerrillas seized three South Korean sailors from a trawler they attacked in the Atlantic ocean off northwest Africa Saturday, a foreign ministry official here said.

Another five Koreans aboard the ship, Ain Ouuali, were missing.

Sixteen crew members, including eight Moroccans, were rescued by a Moroccan patrol boat.

the official said, quoting a report from the South Korean consulate general in Las Palmas.

The guerrillas machinegunned and threw hand grenades at the Ain Ouuali, jointly owned by a South Korean and a Moroccan company.

The trawler caught fire but the blaze was put out by the patrol boat.

## Israeli diplomat alleges Malta assassination bid

**VALLETTA, Malta (R)** — Israeli chargé d'affaires Esther Milli said Saturday she had been the victim of an assassination attempt in Valletta Friday night.

A gunman fired five shots at her in her car outside a florist's shop, but her only injuries were minor cuts from flying glass.

Ms. Milli, who is in her early fifties, said she had been about to start her car in a busy shopping district when another vehicle drew alongside.

A man, described by Ms. Milli as having a dark complexion with a heavy moustache, fired five shots, which shattered her car windows.

Ms. Milli said she chased her attacker's car but lost it in heavy pre-Christmas traffic.

She was later treated to cuts in her face and hand.

"I must be the luckiest woman in Malta," said Milli, who has been in Malta about 18 months.

## Greece, Cyprus promise to reverse Cyprus declaration

**ATHENS (R)** — Greece and Cyprus have decided to intensify diplomatic efforts to reverse the unilateral proclamation of a Turkish-Cypriot state and to find a fair solution to the Cyprus problem.

Speaking to reporters after three hours of talks with visiting Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou, Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou said the two sides intended to reverse the declaration of independence of a pseudo-state in northern Cyprus by Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash last month.

Gen. Zia imposed martial law in July 1977 and banned all political parties in 1979, the same year Mr. Bhutto was hanged.

He indicated he would continue his campaign to drum up support for his model of Islamic government, saying he planned a large public rally next month like the one he held on Wednesday in Multan.

"We will use all means at our disposal to reverse this decision and will make any effort necessary in many capitals and international organisations," Mr. Papandreou said.

Last month the Turkish sector, saying there was no chance of a

settlement because of Greek insensitivity, declared independence.

Mr. Papandreou declined to elaborate on the details of the diplomatic campaign his government intended to launch, but said the efforts would be within the framework of the U.N. resolution which condemned the Turkish-Cypriot state.

He said he and Mr. Kyprianou had decided on what practical steps should be taken to reverse the declaration of independence.

The ministers of foreign affairs of the two countries, Yannis Haralambopoulos of Greece and George Iacovou of Cyprus, also took part in the talks at the prime minister's office.

Mr. Kyprianou, who arrived from Nicosia Thursday, said the two sides examined all aspects of the Cyprus problem and reached concrete decisions for the solution of the issue.

## Iran claims arrest of 100 guerrillas

## Iran claims arrest of 100 guerrillas

**TEHRAN (R)** — A hundred members of the anti-government Mujahedin-e-Khalq guerrilla organisation were arrested recently as they held a meeting in Tehran, the national news agency IRNA reported Saturday.

The agency said the commander of the paramilitary revolutionary guards, Mohsen Rezai, announced the arrests Friday at a prayer ceremony in the southern town of Zarand.

Rezai said security forces also seized five radio sets capable of communicating with Europe, it added. No further details were given.

The Mujahedin-e-Khalq supported Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution, but later broke with the clergy-led followers of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and waged a campaign of violence against revolutionary leaders in 1981.

## Gen. Zia says Bhutto's party will never rule Pakistan again

**ISLAMABAD (R)** — The Pakistan People's Party (PPP), left-wing movement founded by executed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, will not be allowed to rule again, martial law President Mohammad Zia-Ul-Haq said Friday night.

In his most direct indictment to date of Pakistan's main opposition party, Gen. Zia told journalists the PPP brought the country to the brink of crisis during its 5-1-2 years in power and should not be allowed to do so again.

PPP members, whom Gen. Zia banned from contesting elections for five years after he deposed Mr. Bhutto in a coup in 1977, will now be banned for another 10 years from any polls, the official APP news agency quoted him as saying in Lahore.

Gen. Zia's comments, two days after he said any new government would have to continue his Isl-

amisation programme, were the clearest sign to date that he sees no fundamental change after elections promised by March 1985, political sources said.

Gen. Zia, who has twice cancelled previously promised polls, announced on Aug. 12 he would hold elections by March 1985 but left the exact date and nature of the polls vague. He promised Friday night there would be no third cancellation.

The nine-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), of which the PPP is the largest member, launched a protest campaign for immediate elections two days after Gen. Zia's announcement.

The protests, which were often violent in the southern province of Sind, died down in mid-October and Gen. Zia has slowly resumed campaigning for the controlled form of government he calls Isl-

amic democracy.

He repeated his view that Pakistan should not have a Western democracy but an Islamic system, under which electoral committees would choose only "good and right-minded" candidates to run for office.

He said he had not yet decided whether to seek a court order banning the PPP altogether and said party members were first barred from polls for five years because he did not expect martial law to last that long.

Gen. Zia imposed martial law in July 1977 and banned all political parties in 1979, the same year Mr. Bhutto was hanged.

He indicated he would continue his campaign to drum up support for his model of Islamic government, saying he planned a large public rally next month like the one he held on Wednesday in Multan.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

### EMERGENCIES

### NIGHT DUTY

### AMMAN AIRPORT

### AMBASSIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN EMBASSIES

### MONEY EXCHANGE

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### WEATHER

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### DEPARTURES

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES

### ARRIVALS

## Middle East events reflect on Christmas celebrations here

By Nafeh Abu Nab  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Christmas is a time of peace and enjoyment.

However due to the latest developments in the Middle East, this year's Christmas might be the most tense one for international residents in Jordan.

The French and American communities in Jordan don't seem to have scheduled any big events, or if they did, their officials didn't want to discuss it to the press.

"Some French are staying here, some are going to France and others are going out of Jordan but not necessarily to France," said Patrice Paoli, the French press attache.

The German society had a Christmas bazaar at Schneller School on Monday Dec. 12, and are planning to have a preacher from the West Bank to hold Christmas for their Protestant congregation and a local priest to hold mass for their Catholic congregation.

"We have no Christmas tree but we have a small olive wood relief representing the birth of Christ for Christmas," said Paul Peter Hofner, a German who planned nothing more than a small feast with friends to celebrate Christmas.

"I'll probably just have dinner with my husband and some friends," said Judy Reiter, an American from Washington D.C. who arrived recently into Jordan.

"I am going to England for two weeks to celebrate Christmas with family and friends," said Phil Robins, a British native.

Some friends are going to Petra, and the Anglican Chaplain Keith Frazer Smith is giving a big lunch party, Robins said.

"I don't want to know about the planned events in Jordan, otherwise I'll feel bad for missing them," Robins added.

Phillip Carbone, an American working in the U.S. embassy, and his family seem to be excited about spending Christmas in Jordan.

"I've made a lot of Christmas cookies and cakes," said Lilian, Carbone's wife.

"We're gonna have Christmas

socks for everyone with names on 'em," Christopher Carbone's eight-year-old son, said excitedly.

The Carbones have an artificial Christmas tree which they brought with them from the U.S.

The American School has planned a trip to Switzerland for Christians, according to Mrs. Carbone.

"We are going to sing Christmas Carols with friends," said Anne Counsell who has a Christmas tree and "lots of presents" for friends.

She is planning on having a tuck dinner her boyfriend, Bill Lyons, and some close friends.

I just want to have a quiet peaceful Christmas," she added.

The Swiss community had a Santa Claus party for 30 Swiss children, at the house of George Bircher, consul of Switzerland in Amman.

Presents from Switzerland were distributed to the kids. "Christian families in the Soviet Union celebrate Christmas individually," said Guehnadi Gatilov, of the Soviet Union. "but the New Year is celebrated officially, by everybody."

"Religion and state are separate," he added.

For the 3,000 Filipinos in Jordan there were no plans for a big party, or any massive congregations. Each is going to celebrate Christmas on his own.

"I am having a small party for my close friends and relatives," said Emmanuel Contreras, a Filipino resident in Jordan. "We are going to sing Christmas Carols and exchange gifts. That's part of our tradition," he added.

Many families have also planned to spend Christmas at Petra. The Petra Forum Hotel has 200 rooms and it is almost fully booked.

"I don't want to know about the planned events in Jordan, otherwise I'll feel bad for missing them," Robins added.

Phillip Carbone, an American working in the U.S. embassy, and his family seem to be excited about spending Christmas in Jordan.

"I've made a lot of Christmas cookies and cakes," said Lilian, Carbone's wife.

"We're gonna have Christmas



Leading religious figures representing Islamic and Christian communities meet in Amman Friday (Petra photo)

## Islamic-Christian meeting warns of Israeli terrorist actions in Holy Land

AMMAN (Petra) — An Islamic-Christian meeting held in Amman Friday has warned the Muslim and Christian worlds of the danger inherent in Israel's illegal practices and terrorist actions in the occupied Arab lands and the holy places.

The meeting was called to discuss recurrent Zionist attacks on Christian and Islamic holy places and the recent bombs that went off at a mosque and a church in Al-Eizariyah town in a Jerusalem suburb, injuring the mosque's muezzin and one of the church's nuns.

Such attacks perpetrated by Zionists are attempts to shake the steadfastness of the Arab population in the occupied lands and weaken their resistance, a statement issued at the end of the meeting said.

The statement said that Israel's pursuance of its settlement policies, its support for the settlers' attacks and terrorist actions directed against the indigenous population, are part of Zionists' attempts to Judaize the holy city of Jerusalem and impose a Jewish character on Arab land.

The meeting decided to set up a joint committee to be entrusted with tasks aimed at providing protection on Islamic and Christian holy places and to expose Israel's continued attacks on Christian and Islamic holy sites in the occupied Arab lands.

According to the statement the participants in the meeting also discussed the various dangers threatening the holy places in general and terrorist actions.

The cables appeal to the organisations to do everything possible to put an end to Israel's criminal and terrorist actions.

control for the home market and for export and give the farmer a better price for superior quality produce. In addition, Mr. Dudin said, gluts could be absorbed by the processing plants and that the farmers still have a choice where they sell their produce.

Asked about the current National Consultative Council (NCC) debates on agricultural policy, the minister replied that the constraints affecting agriculture should be reviewed to try and improve the situation, although an ideal situation can never be achieved in a business such as agriculture due to external factors such as the weather, water supply and fluctuating markets.

Mr. Dudin went on to say: "It is a healthy phenomenon that agriculture is being discussed, whether positively or negatively, as this means that plant and animal production out of available land is an objective of paramount importance to any future development plan."

Regarding current agricultural policy and marketing strategies Mr. Dudin explained that at present there is an absence of an overall national plan for agricultural development, although there is an emphasis towards self-sufficiency to meet local needs, thereby avoiding high transportation, packaging and marketing costs of exporting. However, Mr. Dudin said, that Jordan is interested in exporting agricultural produce although extensive market studies are needed for securing profitable outlets. Mr. Dudin also said "Jordan is competing in a difficult position regarding exports due to the closure of traditional markets in the Gulf area, where there is now internal agricultural development in addition to competition from Greece and Turkey which are low-cost suppliers in order to obtain hard currency."

Mr. Dudin said the possibility of exporting to Europe was being investigated and that Jordan had the advantage of two seasons for production of vegetables in the Jordan Valley which could be exploited more fully, for example exporting winter tomatoes to Europe where they are otherwise not available at that time of year.

He said that this prospect requires studies on demands, European Economic Community (EEC) regulations and transport costs.

On current problems in agriculture, the minister said that

land fragmentation hindered large scale development, especially regarding wheat production where large spaces are needed, and land fragmentation also means that there are a large number of small farmers.

Mr. Dudin also said that although farmers have adopted modern techniques in ploughing and irrigation, they are still traditional regarding the crops grown and are resisting crop diversification in favour of producing established crops such as tomatoes, cucumbers and eggplants.

The minister said that the situation is improving and that many farmers are increasingly aware that tomato production in high season is less profitable than in the winter and are adjusting production and crop varieties accordingly.

Mr. Dudin, however, feels that the government should not interfere "to a large extent" in this matter because crop protection, research and extension facilities are widely available to the farmers, who are now beginning to learn from their previous mistakes and are taking the initiative to improve their situation.

The minister emphasised the difficulties that would arise if the ministry tried to enforce diversification or farm practices saying that the manpower and transport costs would be very high in addition to undermining the free enterprise of the farmers.

He said that there are experimental stations in the Ma'an and Shobak areas in southern Jordan, that have produced excellent results in growing apples although studies are still preliminary.

On the subject of what the minister said that feasibility studies will be carried out by the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) on water beds in the southern, mid, northern and eastern areas of Jordan to test the potential for irrigation. He added that although the initial investment will be very high, the expected returns should be good.

Mr. Dudin concluded by saying: "The National Plan for agriculture should be an imaginative plan taking into account the high initial costs that would be entailed (at the beginning) and should use the knowledge and expertise of Jordanians."

## Jordan aims to improve agricultural production, marketing, says Dudin

By Anne Counsell  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "An honest image of the current situation regarding agriculture in Jordan is necessary to eliminate bottlenecks and improve production and marketing", said Minister of Agriculture Marwan Dudin in an interview with the Jordan Times this week.



Marwan Dudin

control for the home market and for export and give the farmer a better price for superior quality produce. In addition, Mr. Dudin said, gluts could be absorbed by the processing plants and that the farmers still have a choice where they sell their produce.

Asked why the selling of shares in the company had been very slow, Mr. Mr. Dudin replied that the timing of the shares being released on the market was bad due to low money transfers and the Gulf countries restricting their foreign labour which froze capital transfer because of the uncertain situation.

He added that although the farmers themselves had not bought a large number of the shares this was partly due to the lack of available funds at that time in the season but that merchants and banks had been purchasing shares.

Mr. Dudin outlined important projects currently under discussion in the Higher Agricultural Council, notably studies on growing apples and increasing wheat production. He said that the potential for cultivating both wheat and apples is good as they require comparatively little irrigation from artesian wells.

He said that there are experimental stations in the Ma'an and Shobak areas in southern Jordan, that have produced excellent results in growing apples although studies are still preliminary.

On the subject of what the minister said that feasibility studies will be carried out by the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) on water beds in the southern, mid, northern and eastern areas of Jordan to test the potential for irrigation. He added that although the initial investment will be very high, the expected returns should be good.

Mr. Dudin concluded by saying: "The National Plan for agriculture should be an imaginative plan taking into account the high initial costs that would be entailed (at the beginning) and should use the knowledge and expertise of Jordanians."

## 27 graduate at Nazzal Centre

AMMAN (Petra) — A graduation ceremony of 27 students was organised at the Nazzal Community Centre under the patronage of Her Highness Princess Sarvat.

Princess Sarvat also opened the bazaar organised by the centre and toured its various sections.

The ceremony was attended by Minister of Social Development in Amman Al Mufti.

## Labour under-secretary leaves for ALO meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Labour Tayseer Abdul Jaber left Amman Friday to take part in the board meetings of the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO) which will start Saturday in Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates.

## Malhas holds talks with Chinese medical team

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Zuhair Malhas Saturday conferred with the visiting People's Republic of China early next year to get acquainted with the Chinese experience in health services.

The Chinese team Friday visited Petra and the southern region of Jordan.

They were accompanied on their visit by Public Relations Director at the Minister of Health Tariq Na'im.

## Basma opens women's centre

RUSAIFA (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Basma Thursday opened at the Working Women's Society in Rusaifa, a centre for producing wool fabrics and a kindergarten.

Princess Basma also distributed diplomas to 16 female trainees on sewing and weaving. The trainee graduates had received theoretical and applied instructions in this

field for 11 months.

President of the society, Samira Salman, expressed appreciation of Princess Basma's support for the project and her donation of sewing machines and children's toys to the society.

She also thanked Rusaifa municipality for granting a piece of land for the society to construct a building on.

They were accompanied on their visit by Public Relations Director at the Minister of Health Tariq Na'im.

Basma opens women's centre

RUSAIFA (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Basma Thursday opened at the Working Women's Society in Rusaifa, a centre for producing wool fabrics and a kindergarten.

Princess Basma also distributed diplomas to 16 female trainees on sewing and weaving. The trainee graduates had received theoretical and applied instructions in this

field for 11 months.

President of the society, Samira Salman, expressed appreciation of Princess Basma's support for the project and her donation of sewing machines and children's toys to the society.

She also thanked Rusaifa municipality for granting a piece of land for the society to construct a building on.

They were accompanied on their visit by Public Relations Director at the Minister of Health Tariq Na'im.

Basma opens women's centre

RUSAIFA (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Basma Thursday opened at the Working Women's Society in Rusaifa, a centre for producing wool fabrics and a kindergarten.

Princess Basma also distributed diplomas to 16 female trainees on sewing and weaving. The trainee graduates had received theoretical and applied instructions in this

field for 11 months.

President of the society, Samira Salman, expressed appreciation of Princess Basma's support for the project and her donation of sewing machines and children's toys to the society.

She also thanked Rusaifa municipality for granting a piece of land for the society to construct a building on.

They were accompanied on their visit by Public Relations Director at the Minister of Health Tariq Na'im.

Basma opens women's centre

RUSAIFA (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Basma Thursday opened at the Working Women's Society in Rusaifa, a centre for producing wool fabrics and a kindergarten.

Princess Basma also distributed diplomas to 16 female trainees on sewing and weaving. The trainee graduates had received theoretical and applied instructions in this

field for 11 months.

President of the society, Samira Salman, expressed appreciation of Princess Basma's support for the project and her donation of sewing machines and children's toys to the society.

She also thanked Rusaifa municipality for granting a piece of land for the society to construct a building on.

They were accompanied on their visit by Public Relations Director at the Minister of Health Tariq Na'im.

Basma opens women's centre

RUSAIFA (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Basma Thursday opened at the Working Women's Society in Rusaifa, a centre for producing wool fabrics and a kindergarten.

Princess Basma also distributed diplomas to 16 female trainees on sewing and weaving. The trainee graduates had received theoretical and applied instructions in this

field for 11 months.

President of the society, Samira Salman, expressed appreciation of Princess Basma's support for the project and her donation of sewing machines and children's toys to the society.

She also thanked Rusaifa municipality for granting a piece of land for the society to construct a building on.

They were accompanied on their visit by Public Relations Director at the Minister of Health Tariq Na'im.

Basma opens women's centre

RUSAIFA (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Basma Thursday opened at the Working Women's Society in Rusaifa, a centre for producing wool fabrics and a kindergarten.

Princess Basma also distributed diplomas to 16 female trainees on sewing and weaving. The trainee graduates had received theoretical and applied instructions in this

field for 11 months.

President of the society, Samira Salman, expressed appreciation of Princess Basma's support for the project and her donation of sewing machines and children's toys to the society.

She also thanked Rusaifa municipality for granting a piece of land for the society to construct a building on.

They were accompanied on their visit by Public Relations Director at the Minister of Health Tariq Na'im.

Basma opens women's centre

RUSAIFA (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Basma Thursday opened at the Working Women's Society in Rusaifa, a centre for producing wool fabrics and a kindergarten.

Princess Basma also distributed diplomas to 16 female trainees on sewing and weaving. The trainee graduates had received theoretical and applied instructions in this

field for 11 months.

President of

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation  
Established 1974

Responsible Editor: MOHAMMAD AMAD  
Board of Directors: JUMA'A HAMMAD  
RAJA ELISSA  
Editor: GEORGE S. HAWATMEH MOHAMMAD AMAD  
MAHMOUD AL KAYED  
Senior Editor: RAMI G. KHOURI Advertising Manager: FERNANDO FRANCIS

Editorial and advertising offices:  
Jordan Press Foundation,  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.  
Telephones: 666320, 666265 Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO  
Telex: JORTIMES, Amman, Jordan.

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.  
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the  
Jordan Times advertising department.

## Not a storm in a tea cup

IT IS simplistic to think of Yasser Arafat's visit to Egypt Thursday the way his Arab and Palestinian opponents are putting it. But it would be equally foolhardy to think that his talks with President Mubarak could be described as just another storm in a tea cup.

The issue in question is the whole of the Palestine problem — really — subjecting it to one of its crudest tests.

At least five of those radical Palestinian leaders, who opposed the PLO chairman's dramatic move to visit and talk with the Egyptian president, appeared on Syrian Television at the weekend to denounce strongly what they said was Arafat's "bilateral violation" of the PLO charter. They agreed that the PLO chairman's "unilateral" step should be rejected and also on the need to oust him from his position at the helm of the PLO. Among the five representatives were two from totally-Syrian-backed radical organisations, a representative of the Fateh rebels, the DFLP assistant secretary general and, more importantly perhaps, the PFLP leader, Dr. George Habash.

Habash, being the more interesting and powerful among the five, said Arafat would not be tolerated as PLO chairman any longer. What he (Arafat) did there (in Cairo), the PFLP leader told his viewers, is unforgivable: the man clearly wants to take us to Camp David. "He has to be ousted."

This reaction is typical of the man and his organisation — of the radical Palestinian movement generally. But what does it really mean? And what is to come of it?

Simplistic, we said, is to think that the issue of Arafat's visit with Mubarak was like what Habash and his colleagues make it. The visit may indeed be controversial, but is nowhere near being as black and white as the radicals in the Palestinian camp put it.

The less radical elements in the PLO, like those in the Fateh Central Committee meeting now and then in Tunis, and who really matter most in the final analysis, too have said their word. They distanced themselves from any binding results from their senior colleague's talks in Egypt, but did not call for anything like Arafat's ouster. Tough nuts, now, later, perhaps.

Arafat has been the leader, you know why, because he is the one to always take the bold moves: first the gun, then diplomacy, and some wild — or survival — diplomacy whenever the need arose.

Arafat is wily and shrewd enough to survive. If he got out of Tripoli against all the odds, he could not possibly afford to fail now.

Some even think that he would have never undertaken the "via-Egypt-trip" from Tripoli without full endorsement first from at least five powerful Fateh colleagues in the Central Committee.

But, be it what it may, Arafat's visit to Cairo this week is indeed tumultuous and controversial. However, it cannot but be a calculated move, primarily designed to explore a speedy political option for a Middle East solution.

If there is a quick response to his signal, there may be a better chance to make early peace. Otherwise, it is just as well to forget it.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Arab unity upsets Israel

ISRAEL HAS been clearly upset by the visit of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat to Cairo on Thursday and more upsetting to Israel was the statement issued by the Egyptian cabinet underlining the importance of Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation for solving the Middle East issue.

Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has described the visit as a bad omen for Israel since it signals a return of Egypt to the Arab fold and a re-unification of Arab ranks in the face of Israel's threats.

Israelis see in the visit, and the cabinet statement, a measure that would enhance Arab solidarity and pave the way for a concerted Arab front facing the Israeli enemy. A Jordanian-Palestinian cohesion can enhance the steadfastness of the Arab inhabitants in Israeli-held territories and can promote efforts towards achieving a solution to the Palestine problem — something not to the taste of the Israelis.

Israel has always depended on divisions among Arab ranks which helped it to achieve its goals. The return of Egypt to the Arab fold and solidarity among Arab states are bound to upset Zionist leaders as they foreshadow unfavourable surroundings for Israel and an uneasy future.

### Al Dustour: Arafat's visit justifiable

NO DOUBT Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat's visit to Cairo on Thursday is justifiable because Egypt had offered support for the Palestinians during and after the Tripoli siege and protection and hospitality during their passage through the Suez Canal to North Yemen.

President Hosni Mubarak adopted a very honourable stand during the Tripoli siege and displayed Egypt's willingness towards returning to the Arab fold. Therefore Arafat's visit to Cairo was partly to offer gratitude to the Egyptian president and to work towards returning Egypt to the Arab Nation. This is a very logical thing to do given the situation Arafat was in after his departure from Lebanon.

### Sawt Al Shaab: A step in the right direction

EGYPT HAS showed surprise at Israel's anger for Arafat's visit to Cairo on Thursday. Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali said Israel has no right to interfere in this matter.

In fact Egypt values its relations with Arab states above all other considerations despite the fact that it had signed a peace treaty with Israel. Egypt has continuously condemned Israel's attacks on Arab countries and its invasion of Lebanon as well as its continued arbitrary measures against the Palestinian Arabs under its rule. Egypt's departure from the Arab ranks had actually shaken the Arabs and caused not only a shock but a great disaster for all Arabs. Its treaty with Israel has brought about disturbances inside Egypt and created for the Egyptian government many problems and headaches.

# Christmas '83: Palestinians are still homeless

By Rev. Musa Adeli

The writer is priest of Jabal Al Hussein's Roman Catholic parish. He is also director of Jordan Caritas, a Catholic welfare society based in Amman with branches throughout Jordan. He circulated this article to 124 Caritas welfare societies throughout the world to mark this year's Christmas celebrations.

ONCE AGAIN the beautiful feast of the Nativity of Jesus draws near. Christmas and all that it evokes in the minds and hearts of the Christian — family gatherings, exchange of gifts and presents, carols all jostles for place in our memories alongside the deeper and eternal values which, however smothered by the erosion of time, seem to surface once again in this season, causing us to drop our adult sophistries and to stand beside the crib — and wonder:

Who live in this part of the world perhaps read with a slightly different appreciation that the rest of men, the Nativity story as told in Luke's Gospel Chapter II. He records a birth, a simple event: happening everywhere, every day. There is no need to wonder at such a mundane happening we say — but — we are wrong. This birth in its magnitude of importance should have shattered the universe and sent it spinning; instead it brought in a few tattered shepherds from the nearby hills. During this momentous event the world

needs urgent upon her, making no cry for some sort of consideration but knowing that soon, of utter necessity she must find a small space, a place, any place in which to lay before the uncomprehending world. Heaven's unspeakable gift?

The light of the people in Palestine at that time was not a happy one. Poverty, hardship and political impotence had volked them firmly to the oppressive domination of a foreign power. Do we not see a parallel today? Throughout the world there are Arabs, sprung from that same soil of Palestine and yet for them there is only one message emanating from that land, as there was for the newborn: "No room." Displaced from land and ancestry; stripped of national dignity and identity; relegated to inferior status to work out their destiny as best they can. *They have no country.* Do these four words not sound a note of tragedy in our minds? Can we for a moment imagine an American Englishman, Frenchman, Jordanian if there were no such countries as America, England, France or Jordan? What is the significance of a national name if it means nothing, if it does not manifest where I belong? But where does the Palestinian belong? *Where is home?* Is it in Israel? Lebanon? The Occupied West Bank?

Jordan? Other Arab states or overseas? No, it is none of these places. The answer is as simple as it is destructive — they have no home. Who any more hears the cry of these expelled and wandering people? The world shrugs as this nation goes from place to place with its begging bowl only to be told — *no room*, sort out your own problem. But — can it be sorted out? will the problem yield to a solution? Will the sprawling camps littered over the Middle East disappear or will they become a permanent way of life for these people? Will this mode of existence which of its very nature breeds and foments discontent continue until there is no-one left with a living memory of any other type of life? These questions beg answers. From where will the answer come? From the Christians of the world? from the Church? from the democracies of the West or from the Communist countries of the East? We do not know seems, but one thing is surely certain: an answer *will* come. Someone somewhere will solve this problem sometime and in the solving might well create more horrific questions than those faced today. In theory we know that God holds the answer to it all. Why does he not act?

Could it be that we never ask

him? Could it be that the language we use is unknown to God, laced as it is with selfish and turn-in interests? Do we as the Christians of the world pray with that humility and trust that can move mountains — but never does — because we always fall short of the full requirements of both trust and humility? Do we in our day-to-day life care enough to do something about this situation? Do we try to search out an answer not coloured by political expediency or religious bias?

The plight of the Palestinian is a dark shadow in our world. They are our brothers. Christian or non-Christian Christ loves them. He was born for them and wanted his birth to bring them life. Here we need to reflect on what Christians message they receive at this season from us who claim to be followers of his. What must they think as they see us flock to our churches and cribs? What hopes rise in their hearts as they hear us sing our carols using such words as "he came to set us free." Do they see a connection between us, the professedly Christian people who by sheer definition must carry wide charity in the heart, and the tiny babe of Bethlehem whom we laud and fete? Or do they see a dichotomy in us — our Christian values applied selectively.

During this lovely season let us open our hearts to these our brothers who have surely too long heard the "no room" message. Let us somehow, each in our own way, make the Christmas message credible to these people. Let us search our ways of removing their refugee status. Christ's words still hold meaning today. What you do to others you do to me. Let us not be content to continue to give the "no room" message to Christ, through these, his sons. Let us make him welcome through all those who need desperately to hear this message: — Come, there is room for you. — COME HOME.

## Uruguayans escalate struggle for political freedoms, democracy

By Jimmy Burns

MONTEVIDEO — On the night that Argentina voted for its new civilian government, thousands of Uruguayans ran cheering through the centre of Montevideo as if it were they were going to the polls.

Within a week of that day, Oct. 30, there were countrywide strikes organised by the outlawed Communist-led trade union movement and a bloody battle between students and riot police which led to one death and, though it thwarted the opposition, adding a further factor of instability.

A nationwide radio and television broadcast by Gen. Alvarez recently in which he chastised the politicians who staged the rally and urged Uruguayans to be on guard against "Marxist subversion" seems to have hardened opposition.

Immediately after the broadcast, tens of thousands of people in Montevideo went to their doorways and windows and beat on pots and pans, a form of protest against the regime popularised in Chile.

Few observers envy the task faced by the country's newly appointed Economy Minister, Mr. Vieg Villegas, who has close links with moderate Colorados and Blancos. He will adopt a prime ministerial role as the main intermediary between the government and the opposition.

It is difficult to find a Uruguayan politician today who will publicly endorse any army participation in the future government, but the opposition parties are divided over tactics. The division was underlined during the rally last month when a large number of demonstrators defied the orders of the official organisers to disperse and marched towards the Presidential Palace. Until recently the moderates within the two major political groupings — the Colorados and the Blancos — argued that it was best to avoid provoking the hardliners. But increasingly the moderates are having to revise their strategy to avoid being outflanked by more militant factions.

They are having to support the release of political prisoners and the return of thousands of exiles, matters previously only backed by radicals, particularly members of the Frente Amplio — the coalition of Christian Democrats, Communists, and Socialists.

The effectiveness of Uruguay's opposition remains largely conditioned by Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, the 65-year-old exiled leader of the Blanco Party. Mr. Ferreira was pipped at the post in the country's last elections in 1971 and his political stature has grown into mythical proportions while in exile.

Mr. Ferreira now enjoys broad support including union and student groups and dissident members of other parties. His critics claim that much of his support would evaporate if he returned to Uruguay, just as many Argentines became disillusioned with the reality of Peron when he returned.

Nevertheless no single politician can be sure of his own future as long as the myth persists.

The other uncertainty is the attitude of the military. The Uruguayan armed forces are not as deeply divided as those in Argentina nor as solidified around one figure as in Chile. Nevertheless, differences between hardliners

## Mitterrand: More of a Gaullist exposure

By John Morrison  
Reuters

PARIS — The political fortunes of France's President Francois Mitterrand appear to be on the mend thanks to a vigorous reassertion of his authority over foreign policy, though he remains vulnerable on the domestic front.

French political analysts have been quick to note the irony in the way Mr. Mitterrand now adopts the monarchial style of General Charles de Gaulle, the man he bitterly opposed for so long.

After long denouncing the Fifth Republic's concentration of power in the head of state's hands as "permanent coup d'etat," Mr. Mitterrand is now making the most of Gen. de Gaulle's legacy.

He has used his wide powers over foreign and defence policy, particularly over France's nuclear

agreement over budgetary and agricultural reform from the wreckage of this month's Athens summit.

Success in leading the 11-nation community out of crisis would pay a double dividend for Mr. Mitterrand because France's presidency coincides with the runup to elections for the European Parliament at the end of June.

Failure to solve the community's woes, on the other hand, will mean a risk that the European poll will turn into a referendum on three years of Socialist domestic policy, an area where Mr. Mitterrand is more vulnerable.

While most opinion polls show Mr. Mitterrand's personal standing recovering slowly to around 40 per cent from a low of around 30 per cent earlier this year, his Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy has failed to make the same turnaround.

While Mr. Mitterrand's presidential mandate runs for seven years until 1988, the left faces parliamentary elections in 1986.

Mr. Mitterrand's personal standing has improved, though he has managed to stabilise unemployment in France at two million, or around eight per cent of the workforce, a lower level than in most Western industrialised countries.

French employers say the government's use of early retirement packages and youth training schemes has disguised the real picture of declining industrial profitability and weakening job market since the Left came to power.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment jumped by 63,000 in November, a rise of 3.1 per cent over October, and some economists predict the figure will climb much faster next year.

The chances of this happening will largely depend on a series of tough decisions the government will have to take in the next few weeks and months on the future of French industry.

Mr. Mauroy's strong cards for remaining prime minister are that he is popular among the Socialist rank and file and is the man best placed to keep the peace with the Communists, who have four ministerial posts.

For the time being the Communists have bowed to some tough political arm-twisting by their senior partners and declared that they will stay the course in government.

But Mr. Mitterrand, who has a long memory for past turnabouts by the Communists, knows that they might use the appointment of a new prime minister, particularly a pragmatist such as Mr. Delors or Mr. Fabius, to make a sudden dash for the exit.

Mr. Mitterrand's domestic fortunes in 1984 will largely hinge on

the outcome of a tough austerity package introduced last March aimed at cutting inflation to five per cent and trimming France's foreign trade deficit.

Since March progress towards the second of these goals has been faster than expected, but inflation has remained obstinately high at around 10 per cent, two or three times as high as in other countries which are France's main trading partners.

While the basic aims of the austerity package have been swallowed by the Communists, as by the reluctant Socialist Party left wing, trouble is brewing for Mr. Mitterrand and Mr. Mauroy over unemployment and industrial redundancies.

One of their profound claims has been that they have managed to stabilise unemployment in France at two million, or around eight per cent of the workforce, a lower level than in most Western industrialised countries.

French employers say the government's use of early retirement packages and youth training schemes has disguised the real picture of declining industrial profitability and weakening job market since the Left came to power.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment jumped by 63,000 in November, a rise of 3.1 per cent over October, and some economists predict the figure will climb much faster next year.

The chances of this happening will largely depend on a series of tough decisions the government will have to take in the next few weeks and months on the future of French industry.

Mr. Mauroy's strong cards for remaining prime minister are that he is popular among the Socialist rank and file and is the man best placed to keep the peace with the Communists, who have four ministerial posts.

For the time being the Communists have bowed to some tough political arm-twisting by their senior partners and declared that they will stay the course in government.

But Mr. Mitterrand, who has a long memory for past turnabouts by the Communists, knows that they might use the appointment of a new prime minister, particularly a pragmatist such as Mr. Delors or Mr. Fabius, to make a sudden dash for the exit.

Mr. Mitterrand's domestic fortunes in 1984 will largely hinge on

the government, buffered by internal strains, has faced enormous difficulties in trying to solve a dispute over redundancies at the Talbot plant in Poissy west of Paris, part of the private loss-making Peugeot group.

The car firm's management has threatened to close the plant and shelve a modernisation programme because of government hesitancy in approving layoffs now.

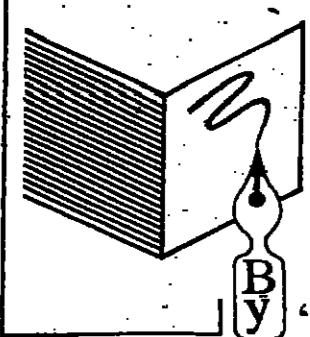
The Talbot case, despite the relatively small number of jobs involved, has erupted into a major headache for the government, illustrating the fragility of its relations both with trade unions and with employers.

Industry Minister, Fabius, a close Mitterrand protege, has made clear that government aid must be channelled into developing the new high-technology industries of tomorrow, rather than protecting traditional sectors in decline.

Mr. Talbot is seen as the first practical test for the Fabius strategy. Thousands of other jobs are at stake in industries such as coal, steel and shipbuilding in 1984.

Some political sources believe Mr. Mitterrand wants the tough decisions to be made as soon as possible in 1984 in order to clear the decks for a softening of austerity and a modest reflaction of the economy in 1985.

This, and the appointment of a new prime minister, would improve the chances of a leftwing victory in 1986, a possibility regarded as quite real in private by the opposition despite a recent run of victories in local elections, especially in the traditionally Communist "red belt" around Paris.



## AMMAN NOTEBOOK

**'Inad Khairallah'**

THE OTHER DAY I was at a suburban post office with an armful of letters and patiently waiting in the queue for my turn to buy stamps. By "an armful" I mean no less than 50 letters, all containing circulars about a new product our company has introduced in the market and my boss thought it would be a good idea to send out circulars on it. I am sure my boss considered it a brainchild of his and I did not have the cruelty to tell him it is a common practice all over the world. Also, I always remember the old saying, "The boss is right, even when he is wrong," that is, if you want to keep our job.

So there I was, at the post office with half a dozen others ahead of me and the counter clerk sipping tea and ignoring the people in the queue. "I am in a hurry please, so if you please," came a pleading from up front and the clerk glared at the source of the voice. "Let a man have some tea at least," the clerk growled, and of course nobody did have any counter argument. But a boy couple of turns ahead was whispering, "If he takes 10 minutes to have a cup of tea, I wonder how much he takes to have lunch."

Suddenly a bright smile lit up

# A day at the post office: A conquest that Alexander the Great might have envied

he could work so fast it would not take more than a couple of minutes for my turn, I reasoned.

"How much?" the golden voice asked again and the clerk started scribbling furiously on his pad. "Seven hundred and fifty fils," he said, and the girl gave him a five-dinar note. "Let us see you more often," he told the girl as he handed over the change. "Oh, thank you." The girl was halfway to the door as she threw these words at him over her shoulders.

It seemed that the boy up ahead was a real troublemaker. He whispered in a loud voice: "The next time I come here I would remember to wear a skin so that I get VIP treatment." The clerk of course heard the remark, as it was meant to. "I do not know how it civilised you are," he snapped at the boy. " Didn't you see it was a girl and don't you know women always deserve priority?" The boy seemed bent on antagonising him.

"Yes, you are right. The problem is her sex only," he said, "and nobody could fail to notice it."

And I knew it was going to be a long wait for me, what with arguments like this. But a middle-aged man somewhere in the line intervened. "Come on, we did not come here to argue," he said. "Let us get on with what we came here for."

"Well, that is what I'm trying to do," the clerk said, obviously pleased with the intervention. " Didn't you see, brother, it was a girl and she deserved priority?" But the middle-aged man was smart. "My eyesight is not good nowadays," he excused himself.

The boy pasted the registered number labels, wrote the certificates of registration and handed them over the counter really consoled me. If

Muttering under his breath the clerk started his job and the queue slowly inched forward and I kicked myself for nursing the idea that he was very fast in his work.

The quick work he produced while offering services to the girl was nowhere in sight as he handled the rest of us. A girl up ahead, apparently a maid servant from southern Asia (darkish and obviously not at all appealing to the clerk to include in his category of "women"), was told to change the envelope because it was "not properly sealed." An old man was told to affix the registration number label by using his saliva. And the middle-aged man's handwriting was commented on how illegible it looked and then came the turn of the troublemaker boy.

He bought stamps worth 475 fils and gave the clerk a half-dinar note. "I have no change," the clerk was ready for the boy. "Give me stamps for 25 fils more so exactly 500 fils," the boy said, apparently in no mood to carry the conflict further. "But I have no 25 fils stamp," the clerk said. "Okay then, you keep the change," the boy offered, and picked up his stamps from the counter. "What the hell do you think offering me a tip?" the clerk snatched the stamps from the boy. "Go get the exact 475 fils change and come back."

The half-dinar note was almost thrown at the boy and I immediately thought of myself ending up in the nearest police station as a witness to a real brawl. No such luck. The boy just looked at the man approaching me with a request to buy him stamps so that he did not have to stand in the same queue and I politely declining lest the people behind me object.

The relief I had on reaching the counter vanished the moment the clerk handed me the stamps. They

were of 60, 40, 10 and 5 fils, which

meant I would have to spend one hour affixing five stamps on each envelope. 275 stamps in all for 55 letters.

I contemplated the idea of going back to the office and dumping the whole thing in the lap of our executive secretary but the memory of a recent episode made me drop the idea. That time, the secretary

did affix the stamps but displayed the envelopes in such a prominent place on her table where the boss would not fail to notice them. Sure enough, he noticed them and was told that I was supposed to have taken them to the post office but since I volunteered only to buy stamps the posting was not done.

In addition, the secretary informed the boss that it took her all day (including the time she went down to the hairdresser when the boss was not around) to affix the stamps, resulting in delaying a number of pressing tasks she was supposed to do. I had to hand it to her for the most plausible excuse for her own shortcomings that time; and it also had made me realise the truth of what the troublemaker boy said earlier of "not wearing a skirt," since the boss had no time to listen to my argument that I was busy with some out-of-town businessmen who arrived that day, and instead chose to give me a reproachful look.

Having decided against being subjected to a repetition of the episode I gathered the stamps and went over to the nearest public desk and got down to business. The problem of the envelopes not having enough space for the stamps was easily solved: affix three in the front and two on the back.

The relief I had on reaching the counter vanished the moment the clerk handed me the stamps. They

were of 60, 40, 10 and 5 fils, which

meant I would have to spend one hour affixing five stamps on each envelope. 275 stamps in all for 55 letters.

thought that came to my mind was what was the latest crime I committed, for the bump reminded me of a hit I received sometime earlier from a Lebanese policeman in the streets of Beirut.

I looked up and there he was, an old acquaintance of mine. (I would not call him a friend because I am careful of the company I keep). Suppressing my anger I did take them to the post office and inquired what he was doing at the post office.

It appeared that he wanted to send a telegram but forgot to pick up his ID and so he was in a fix. The telegram was very urgent concerning the death-bed situation of one of his relatives and even after seeing the message, the telegram clerk sternly demanded to see his ID, without which the regulations did not permit telegram to be accepted.

"Do me a favour," my friend told me, "please produce your ID and send this cable." I said okay. I did not mind, but what about my envelopes and stamps and who would finish what I was doing. He volunteered to do it by the time I send the cable, and the task of joining another queue fell on me again.

Well, I reached the counter, produced the cable (plus two carbon copies) and my ID, plus the money my "friend" gave me and waited expectantly as the clerk did the calculations and put her pen to the receipt book. Suddenly she looked up.

"Is this your ID?" she asked. Well, my photograph was there and it should satisfy her. I said, "But you are not the sender as

given in the cable, are you?" she asked, pushing the cable forms and the ID back over the counter. I said yes, she was right. But the telegram was very urgent and the actual sender could not come, hence my presence. I told her, "Nothing doing," she ruled. "Either you change the sender's name to yours or you bring the sender's ID."

"Well, she had a good point there. I conceded, but how the receiver of the telegram would react to the message, "Uncle serious, start immediately," from me, a name he never heard in his life before. I asked her, "It is not my business," she replied.

So, I trotted back to my friend who was busy affixing the stamps to the envelopes. Regretfully I informed him of the situation, handed him his cable and money and thanked him for doing my job affixing the stamps. "Your are welcome," he gestured, "now let me go and get my ID."

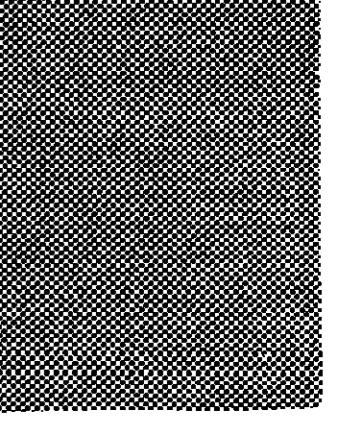
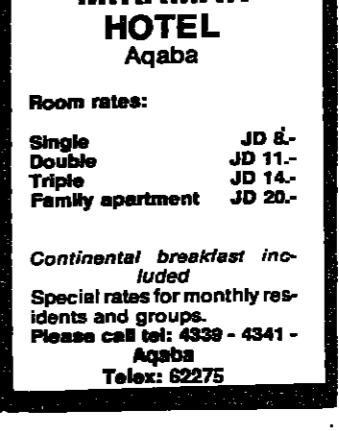
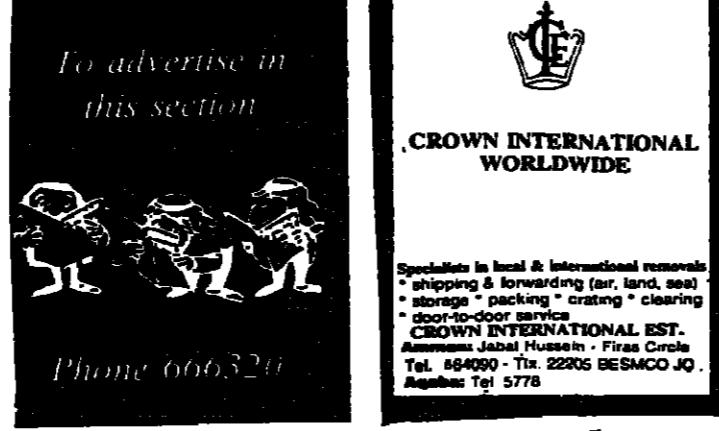
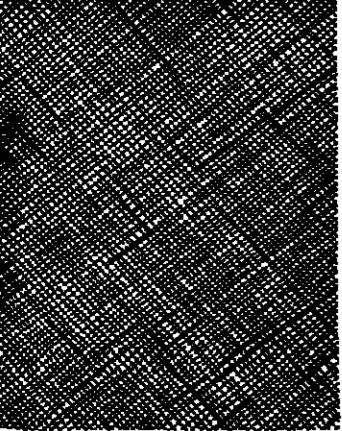
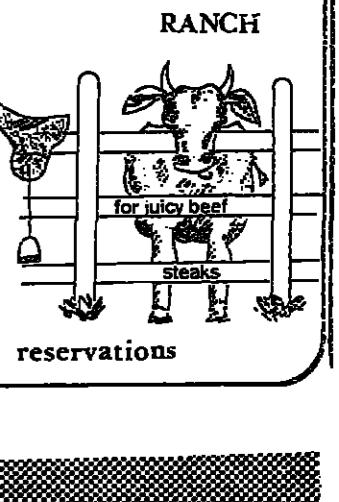
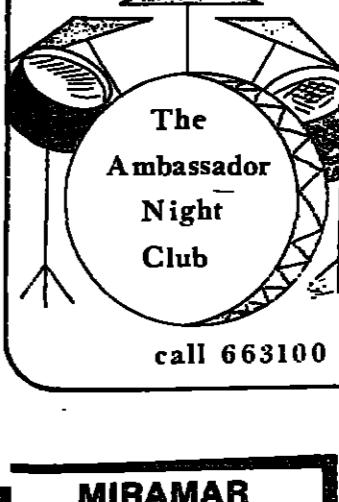
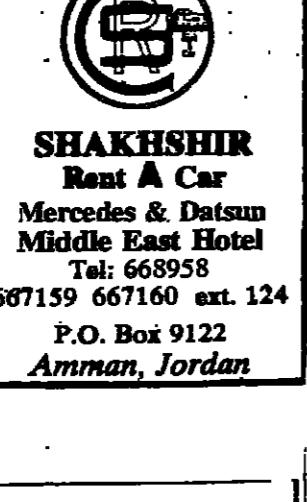
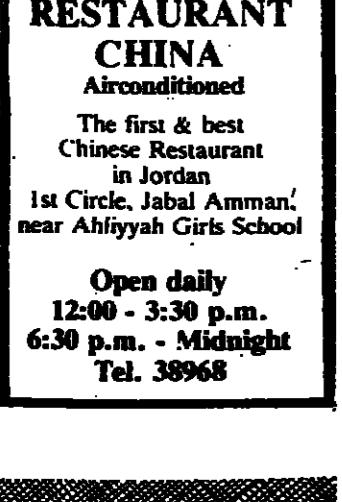
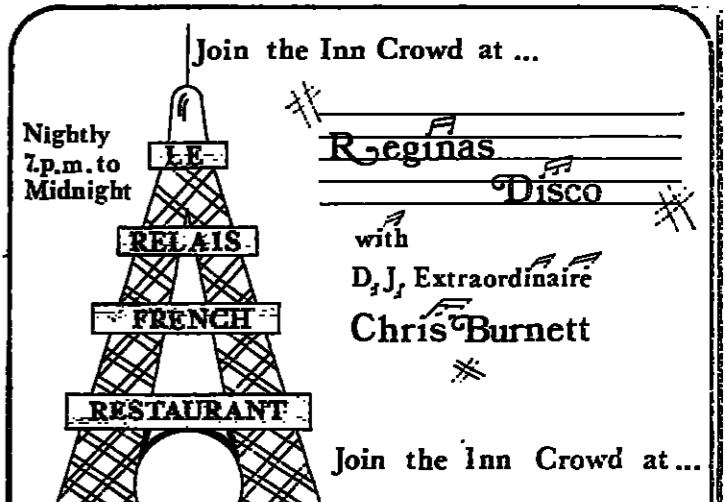
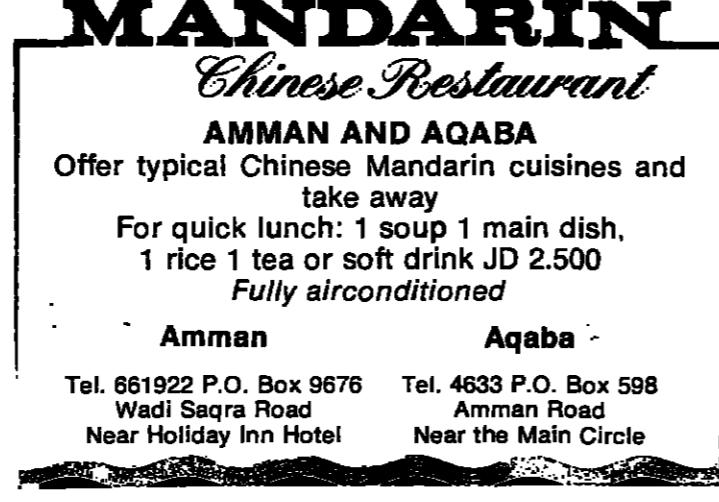
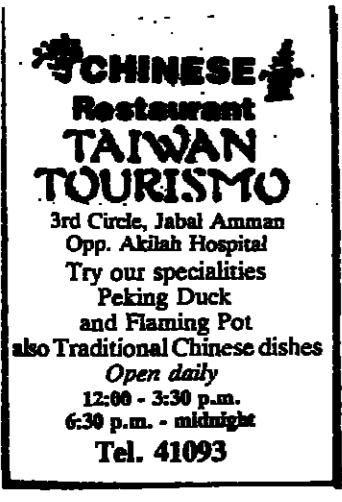
"By the way give me your telephone number," he said, "so that we can stay in touch." I did not have a business card so I jotted down my office telephone number in a piece of paper which I found in my pocket and gave him. After another handshake, he was on his way.

I returned my attention to the envelopes and thought I should reassess my opinion of my friend.

But a close scrutiny of the envelopes made me change my mind and curse his whole generation, including the uncle in question: Some of the envelopes had stamps worth 200 fils, some had 150 fils and the others had the rest.

I felt like tearing my hair, and to engage my hands otherwise pulled out my packet of cigarettes from the pocket. And then it dawned on me that the "piece of paper" I gave my friend with my telephone number was the computer ticket of the parking lot.

# JORDAN MARKETPLACE



## Cup final dilemma for Australian tennis captain

MELBOURNE (R) — Australia's non-playing Davis Cup tennis captain Neale Fraser remains in a dilemma over his choice of singles' players for the final against Sweden starting at Kooyong here on Monday.

Fraser said the singles berths were more open this week than at any time in his 13 years as captain, while Sweden are in the contrasting settled position of having in-form Mats Wilander and Joakim Nystrom as their likely singles pair.

Australia will use Paul McNamee and Mark Edmondson as their doubles combination, but Fraser's problem is whom to pick for the singles from John Fitzgerald, Pat Cash and Edmondson.

Fitzgerald was the hero of Australia's unexpected semifinal victory over France in Sydney, but has suffered severe lapses of form this week.

Cash has a fiery nature as he showed in match practice sessions marked by outbursts of temper, but he demonstrated fine touch and accuracy on Saturday.

The experienced Edmondson continues to underline the power of his serve-and-volley game which could give him a singles spot with Cash.

Fitzgerald's ability to rise to the

big occasion, as shown with his magnificent win over French Open Champion Yannick Noah in the semifinal, is a factor in his favour. On the other hand, Fraser's reliance on current form could tell against Fitzgerald.

Australia seek their third Davis Cup final victory under Fraser's captaincy following the 5-0 rout of the United States in Cleveland in 1973, and their triumph over Italy in Sydney in 1977.

Yet Sweden, aiming for their second cup win, have seen their prospects soar since arriving in Australia as the underdogs with little grass court form.

The Swedes have been boosted by landing Australia's two major grass court titles — Wilander taking the Australian Open and Nystrom winning the New South Wales Open.

Swedish captain Hans Olsson said he was confident his team would win, while Fraser said he expected Australia to take the first three clashes — and the cup.

The draw will be made at Koo-yong Sunday morning.

## Sydney-Hobart yacht race record could be threatened

SYDNEY (R) — The prospect of a strong southerly breeze for the start of the Sydney-Hobart yacht race on Monday could see the race record, set by the giant American yacht Kialoa, broken.

The two biggest yachts in this year's blue water classic, the American Sloop Nirvana skippered by Marv Green and the Bermudan Maxi Sloop Condor helmed by insurance broker Bob Bell, will be chasing Kialoa's record of two days 14 hours 36 minutes 56 seconds set in 1975.

A weather bureau forecast Saturday morning predicted a strong "southerly blow" — winds gusting upwards of 25 knots at the time of the race's scheduled start — and Nirvana's sailing master, Mike Keyworth, said: "If we get conditions that have been forecast, it will definitely suit us. The fresher the conditions and the bigger the wave the more we like it."

The prospect of a strong southerly breeze means the record fleet of more than 170 yachts may take off under a full spinnaker for the third time in the past five years.

### FOR RENT

One second-floor deluxe apartment with three bedrooms, salon, living and dining rooms, two bathrooms, and three verandas (one glassed-in) with central heating and telephone.

Location: Shmeisani, between the Professional Associations Complex and Ambassador Hotel (near the centre's pool from the back street).

Please contact tel: 676810 Amman



U.S. wrestling champion Lee Kemp is expected to be a strong contender for the gold medal at the 1984 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

## U.S. wrestling star lacks only a gold medal

By Stephen T. Holland

LOS ANGELES — U.S. three-time world freestyle wrestling champion Lee Kemp wants to be known as the best in the sport worldwide. And he's going to try for it at the 1984 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles, California.

Jessica Kemp knows this about her son, known it ever since Lee was a tot growing up in Cleveland, Ohio. Lee liked a good fight, liked it even better when he won.

In today's amateur wrestling world, few ever bother the 73.35-kilogramme wrestling specimen either. He's compiled a lifetime record of 110-28-7. Kemp's wins include a Pan-American Games title, four World Cup titles, three world crowns and three U.S. titles.

The biggest title — at least the one that certifies him as a great wrestler in the eyes of the world — is still missing from his resume, though. That's an Olympic title. That's more than keeping Kemp interested in the sport.

Missing the 1980 Olympics was bad for him. Yet deciding to study for an advanced business degree is good. "If I had competed in the 1980 Olympics, I wouldn't have been in graduate school," he says.

And, as Kemp says, those ill-fated Olympic Games have "allowed me to lose a few more times."

"Losing makes me realize how much I want to win," he explains. "I haven't lost that much. People always see me winning. But even the little I've lost is too much for me."

Kemp is still picking his shots these days. He doesn't wrestle unless it's against the best the world has to offer.

And Kemp says he could win by bigger margins but he's not interested in "humiliating anyone."

Dave Schultz, once of Oklahoma University, appears to be Kemp's biggest challenger for the U.S. Olympic spot.

Instead, the United States and several other countries, boycotted those games, held in Moscow. These days Kemp is more thoughtful of the lost opportunity than he was in those days.

Life became uncertain, although not as far as wrestling went. No doubt about that decision. He would wrestle and wait for the 1984 games in Los Angeles.

"I'm 26, now," he says. "I've only come to realize lately maybe there are reasons for things."

Missing the 1980 Olympics was bad for him. Yet deciding to study for an advanced business degree is good. "If I had competed in the 1980 Olympics, I wouldn't have been in graduate school," he says.

And, as Kemp says, those ill-fated Olympic Games have "allowed me to lose a few more times."

"Losing makes me realize how much I want to win," he explains. "I haven't lost that much. People always see me winning. But even the little I've lost is too much for me."

Kemp is still picking his shots these days. He doesn't wrestle unless it's against the best the world has to offer.

And Kemp says he could win by bigger margins but he's not interested in "humiliating anyone."

Dave Schultz, once of Oklahoma University, appears to be Kemp's biggest challenger for the U.S. Olympic spot.

## No clues on missing Jules Rimet trophy

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Police said Saturday they are no nearer tracing the stolen Jules Rimet Cup after questioning several people, including former Brazilian football Association headquarters staff.

Despite appeals from leading members of the Brazilian sporting scene no leads to the cup's whereabouts have arisen and police believe it may already have been melted down for its 1.8-kg gold content to be sold.

The cup was won outright by Brazil after its three world soccer championships.

Insurers of the trophy have offered five million cruzeiros (\$5,250) for information leading to its recovery.

The association's president, Giulite Coutinho, has appealed to the Brazilian people to help find the cup, saying its spiritual value is

far higher than its material worth. The association has also offered a one million cruzeiro (\$1,050) reward for information leading to its safe.

Brazilian newspapers have carried reports of Brazil's greatest football idol Pele, who played in all three of Brazil's triumphant World Championships, as saying the robbery was a consequence of the country's social problems.

"It is not the fault of the thieves, but of the authorities, because the people are desperate, without money and without food," he was quoted as saying.

Coutinho said shortly after the robbery last Monday night he understood the cup was stolen by two men who overpowered the night porter at the Brazilian association's headquarters and then stole the trophy, along with three other cups, from a display cabinet.

## THE Daily Crossword by Samuel K. Fliegner

1 Vocalist	33 Deserve	56 Atlantic	26 Tempora-
5 Green	34 —	City com-	mental
gemstones	35 —	petitor	Cleanse
14 Bacterium	38 Margin	57 Threefold	New England
15 Self-paste	39 One of the	58 Bundle	state
16 Melody	Turners	59 Despot	59 Pretext
17 Rarely	40 Non-con-	60 Painter	30 Belief
20 Successful	formist	61 Winslow	31 Before eye
return in	41 Whiskey	62 Sicilian	33 Resting
tennis.	42 —	site	place for
21 Fall short	43 Philippine	63 Troops	troops
22 "Valse —"	44 —	64 Annoyance	34 Annoyance
23 Detect	45 Swing	65 The crucial	35 The
24 German veto	46 music	66 hour	36 hour
25 Damage	47 Diplomacy	67 Sts.	37 Dared
28 Author of	48 Keatsian	68 River in	38 Commissera-
"Utopia"	verse	69 Siberia	tion
29 Nibbled	49 Progenitor	70 Mischievous	50 Informal
32 Proper and	50 Audit man	71 Cleveland's	51 conversation
collective	53 Occasion-	72 lake	52 Neighbor of
	ally	73 Health, in	53 Md.
		74 Bordeaux	54 "My Way"
		75 Bellini	55 Spanish
		76 opera	gold
		77	55 Article

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

AGAMA	COLIA	BOINE
HUMAN	ADIT	USER
AREN'T	REEL	RIGA
BURNONES	FINGERS	ENOS
POOR	TSETSES	EERIE
AVAST	BIRDSSEED	NEH
TRUE	BLUES	AIRBASE
SPLEND	TRUNK	NEIGHBOR
APATE	REISE	DISSE
CREAT	REAM	SHIRT
URE	OFHABIT	NARD
EDIE	URGE	ANIMA
SEES	MESS	NITRID

11/8/83

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21					22			
				23					24			
25	26	27							28		29	30
32									33		34	
35									36		37	
38									38		40	
41									42		43	
									44		45	
46	47	48							46		50	51
53									54		55	
56									57		58	
59									60		61	

## Japanese climber sees mystery corpse on Everest

KATHMANDU (R) — One of three Japanese climbers who conquered Mount Everest earlier this month said Saturday he spotted an unidentified corpse on the icy upper slopes of the world's highest peak.

Noboru Yamada, 33, climbing leader of a 10-member Japanese mountaineering team, said they had not found the body of noted Japanese alpinist Yasuo Kato, who is presumed to have died from exposure after making a solo mid-winter ascent of the 8,848 metre summit a year ago.

But he said he saw a new body at

about 8,200 metres. The identity of the frozen corpse was not known, although Yamada said he believed it to be that of a big man.

He said he could not see the face as the body was lying face downwards. The body was wearing a blue jacket, blue trousers and yellow gaiters.

In the sub-zero temperatures of Everest, bodies are preserved for years. Several summits over the past four years have spotted the body of Mrs. Hannelore Schmitz, who perished at an altitude of about 8,500 metres in October 1979.

But he said he saw a new body at

4x100 metres relay to a world record at the games.

American tennis star Martina Navratilova was second in the poll, which was organised by the newspaper, with West German swimmer Michael Gross third.

The panel included sports writers from some of the world's leading newspapers.

## Pakistan to decide team on Monday

MELBOURNE (R) — Pakistan will not decide until the morning of the match whether to include Imran Khan, their captain and star all-rounder, in the team to play Australia in the fourth cricket test starting here on Monday.

"There's no pressing need to announce the team now," Imran said Saturday. "We have one more practice session to go

## Trud criticises quality of Soviet plants' output

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet factories are producing millions of roubles worth of rubbish each year, the trade union newspaper Trud said Saturday.

It complained that in 1983 alone the consumer and electric goods industries manufactured more than 70 million roubles (\$90 million) worth of products which had to be scrapped.

In some factories the situation was so bad that the output of defective items exceeded that of saleable wares.

Industrial production also affected other branches of the economy, too, Trud said.

It cited the case of one mineral water plant which had been filling bottles with tapwater.

State inspectors were now imposing fines totalling 30 million roubles (\$39 million) a year on the offenders but these had little effect as factors had no trouble finding the money, it added.

The newspaper said the basic problem was that industrial performance was still measured in quantity instead of quality and that it was time the criteria were changed.

It also suggested that the salaries paid to industrial managers should be directly linked to the quality of the goods their factories produced.

## European Commission wants to stop national trade controls

BRUSSELS (R) — The European community Commission wants member states to give up their right to take national measures to block imports from third countries.

The commission said in a statement Friday that current regulations permitting such action were an anomaly which should be dropped to eliminate the last major barrier to community-wide import regulation.

Current rules allow member states to act unilaterally against imports damaging their national market, and to seek commission approval afterwards, with the possibility of appeal to the Council of Ministers, which represents all 11 governments.

Commission sources said a case earlier this year in which Italy restricted imports of steel tubes and continued the measures for months in defiance of the commission illustrated the need for reform in order to harmonise community-wide trade policy.

The commission said it would ask the council of ministers to change the regulations to give responsibility over import controls exclusively to community agencies.

Meanwhile, Washington has once again become a hive of protectionist lobbying on behalf of the U.S. carbon steel industry. The lobbying this time is focused on steel imports from Third World countries and there are fears that the carefully-crafted export licensing agreement reached last year with the European Community (E.C.) could be overturned in the struggle against these competing exporters.

## Tension could keep dollar high in 1984, experts say

NEW YORK (R) — The laws of economics suggest the dollar should fall from its recent record highs in 1984, but many economists and dealers around the world say the value of the U.S. currency could remain very high in the coming year.

Predictions of a fall in the dollar's value were confidently made at this time a year ago. They proved wildly wrong and the dollar advanced 17 per cent against the West German mark, 26 per cent against the French franc, and 15 per cent against sterling, with only the Japanese yen holding most of its ground.

The experts said the dollar rose to record levels because of extraordinary large capital flows into the United States.

A poll by Reuter correspondents in world financial centres shows that expectations of international tension, which has fuelled the capital flows, could continue to give strong support to the dollar and could even override the economic fundamentals that suggest it should fall.

In the United States itself, some economists say the dollar could fall sharply if U.S. inflation seemed to be quickening, if political tensions lessened or if the Democrats offered a serious challenge to the Republican presidential candidate, presumably President Reagan, in November's election.

A typical view came from Mr. Mathis Cabialavetta, head of the foreign exchange department at the Union Bank of Switzerland, who wrote in the Swiss newspaper Finanz und Wirtschaft that a renaissance of economic fundamentals — the facts and figures of national economic performance — could depress the dollar.

He attributed the greatest recovery potential to the Japanese yen and West German mark, followed by the Swiss franc.

In 1983 the dollar rose inexorably despite spiralling U.S. payments deficit.

Citicorp economists see the merchandise trade deficit widening in 1984 to \$75 billion from \$63 billion in 1983 and the current account gap, which includes services as well as goods, to \$47 billion from \$39 billion.

Conversely, Frankfurt economists say the mark is weak despite positive fundamentals including a growing economy, steady inflation and a healthy current account surplus.

This is partly because of the flick bribery affair, which threatens to topple Economics Minister Otto Lambdorff, the bailout of private bank Schroeder, Muehlemeyer, Hengst and Co., and the bankruptcy of the construction equipment makers IBH Holding and Wibau.

Another factor weakening the mark has been the arrival of NATO missiles in West Germany.

Mr. Tom Miller of Hudson Research Europe in Paris said the poor U.S. current account outlook and slowing capital flows into the United States should allow a weaker dollar and a firmer mark in 1984. But he forecast that higher inflation in France than in West Germany would force a further devaluation of the French franc against the mark.

Chief economists and dealers at Switzerland's three largest banks forecast a lower dollar because of the U.S. current account gap, higher U.S. inflation, a slight fall in nominal U.S. interest rates and a somewhat larger decline in real

U.S. interest rates, which take inflation into account.

But the slide will be limited by the dollar's safe haven role, they added.

Mr. David Kern, chief economist at London's National Westminster Bank, forecast a decline but resilient dollar.

"The dollar has assumed all the characteristics of a hedge currency," he said. "Instabilities that used to favour gold now favour the dollar."

Japanese dealers and economists said the yen was set to firm, despite temporary political uncertainties in Tokyo, but this would be limited by continuing high U.S. interest rates.

"The yen is expected to appreciate against the dollar only gradually," said Mr. Kohsaku Furata, chief economist at Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank.

Mr. Yasuo Ishii, Dai-Ichi's chief dealer, added: "President Reagan is unlikely to take the risk of a resurgence of inflation by reducing interest rates in the year of the presidential elections."

The outflow of capital from Japan into U.S. securities will continue if U.S. interest rates remain high and political tension in the Middle East casts doubts on Japan's oil supply lines, Japanese bankers said.

U.S. economists mostly agree with the consensus of a gradual dollar fall, though the combination of the huge federal budget deficit and tight monetary policy is expected to keep interest rates under upward pressure.

Mr. Bryan Walsh, senior vice president at Irving Trust, saw the dollar weakening but staying basically strong.

## U.S. underground economy estimated at 7.5% of GNP

WASHINGTON (R) — A new U.S. congressional study estimates the so-called underground economy that eludes federal government taxation at about \$222 billion, 7.5 per cent of the Gross National Product (GNP).

This figure is less than previous estimates, but still implies a large loss of federal tax revenue due to unreported economic activity.

Senator Roger Jepsen said:

"Japanese dealers and economists said the yen was set to firm, despite temporary political uncertainties in Tokyo, but this would be limited by continuing high U.S. interest rates."

"The dollar has assumed all the characteristics of a hedge currency," he said. "Instabilities that used to favour gold now favour the dollar."

Japanese dealers and economists said the yen was set to firm, despite temporary political uncertainties in Tokyo, but this would be limited by continuing high U.S. interest rates."

"The yen is expected to appreciate against the dollar only gradually," said Mr. Kohsaku Furata, chief economist at Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank.

Mr. Yasuo Ishii, Dai-Ichi's chief dealer, added: "President Reagan is unlikely to take the risk of a resurgence of inflation by reducing interest rates in the year of the presidential elections."

The outflow of capital from Japan into U.S. securities will continue if U.S. interest rates remain high and political tension in the Middle East casts doubts on Japan's oil supply lines, Japanese bankers said.

U.S. economists mostly agree with the consensus of a gradual dollar fall, though the combination of the huge federal budget deficit and tight monetary policy is expected to keep interest rates under upward pressure.

Mr. Bryan Walsh, senior vice president at Irving Trust, saw the dollar weakening but staying basically strong.

Previous estimates have placed the underground economy at between 5 and 20 per cent of GNP, but Dr. O'Neill said the new analysis suggested it might not be nearly as large as indicated by some researchers and the media.

He concluded: "It is unlikely that the previous indirect estimates that put the unmeasured underground economy at near 20 per cent of official GNP are valid."

Dr. O'Neill added that full-time workers in the underground economy, especially those in illegal businesses, earned between \$50,000 and \$100,000 a year.

Mr. Jepsen, in his forward to the report, said previous estimates of the underground economy had

makers are traditionally wary of making tough decisions for fear of losing voter support.

"There is real danger of political stalemate in the coming year over the budget deficit," says Senator Robert Dole, chairman of the Senate finance committee.

But conservatives and liberals say the United States cannot live forever with the prospect of \$200-billion deficits stretching into the future, as U.S. budget director Mr. David Stockman said, "as far as the eye can see."

Such deficits are financed by borrowing and are widely blamed for keeping U.S. interest rates high and contributing to the dollar's recent surge on world foreign exchange markets.

Senator Dole's Republican-controlled committee has been holding hearings to focus domestic attention on the deficits, despite a boycott of the sessions by the White House.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1983

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today is especially fine for being of service to those less fortunate than yourself. May today bring you a wonderful response to the message of the Prince of Peace.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be very courteous and kind with close ties today. The evening should be spent putting the house in order.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A good day for enjoying others and pleasing them more. Do some special favor for your mate. Make this a family day.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Stay at home where your greatest happiness can be expressed. You are able to understand how to make your home more harmonious.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Deliver gifts to those of whom you are fond and who depend on you to bring them happiness. Take that chip off your shoulder.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Count your blessings on this day and be thankful for them. Plan for the days ahead. See to that everything is in order.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You are glowing with happiness today and can be most affectionate with others. See as many friends as you can. Be kind-hearted.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Do some meditating on what can bring more happiness at home. Be particularly nice to your mate and family.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Take time to see good friends today as well as family. Make some new friends. You will gain a long desired wish.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) During spare time gad about and see persons who can help you. Make plans for the future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) The ideal day to express your true beliefs and be happy. Enjoy a sumptuous family dinner.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Ideal day to spend in the company of the one you love and show true devotion. Do whatever will make this person much happier. Be wise.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be more thoughtful of friends who like you and include them in your family plans for the day. Drive with utmost care.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be someone who understands the problems of others and wants to help them so slant education along lines of social service work. This is someone who will be precise and clever and will expect this of others around him.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1983

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning is good for straightening out whatever requires you get matters in good condition after yesterday's celebration. Later, get together with a talented associate.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Contacting an individual who has a fascinating philosophy can be helpful in advancing your ideas. Avoid a jealous colleague.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Go to an expert who can cue you in on the best way to become more proficient at your career work. Improve health and appearance.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) State what you desire your mate to do and get the right response. Make plans for this evening early in the day.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Important you agree with kin on matters that will bring more harmony at home. Handle business affairs wisely.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get together with allies and come to a new agreement where kindred skills are concerned and get ahead faster.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get into financial affairs you put off because of the holiday and let the family assist you with them. Be active and happy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You may feel tired in the morning, but after lunch energy increases. Make up for lost time and accomplish much.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Avoid a gossipy friend in the morning. Then quietly get together with an expert to talk over financial affairs.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Listen to what others have to suggest in order to gain your cherished wishes.

Take a trip with a good friend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Steer clear of that person who wants you to go out for a good time when you have important work to accomplish.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) If you don't argue over a business matter in the morning, you can later achieve what you set out to do today.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Don't have that talk with a partner in the morning or an argument will result. Get advice of experts to clear up an enigma.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be an absolute fuss-budget and will always be dissatisfied with clothing, food, environment, etc. Teach not to criticize and to be grateful. Your progeny will later become more cooperative and very ambitious. Stress education.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

## China will lose if confidence in Hong Kong collapses

PEKING (R) — Changes in the key economic relationship between Hong Kong and China could present a major problem to policy makers in Peking and London now bargaining over the British colony's future.

Trade and other economic links between the two are so strong that Peking depends on the continuing prosperity of Hong Kong, whose economy has come under severe pressure since China announced it would take the territory back from Britain in 1997.

Hong Kong, in turn, has come to rely on Peking, which has invested large sums in the colony and uses it as its middleman in dealings

with the outside world.

Since China reformed its links with the outside world in 1978, a trade boom between the colony and the Peoples' Republic has benefited both equally, political and business sources in Hong Kong and Peking told Reuters.

Hong Kong has bolstered its growth with cheap Chinese food and raw material imports while China has raked in foreign exchange from these and burgeoning re-exports via the colony.

However, trade has levelled out in the past two years and a new relationship is evolving under which both sides could pay heavily if confidence is lost in China's ability

to sustain the colony's prosperity.

Mushrooming financial and investment activity in Hong Kong by mainland institutions and the narrowing of China's annual trade surplus with Hong Kong indicate as the changes taking place.

The sources said Peking had made a conscious decision to get involved in the Hong Kong economy ahead of political takeover.

But they added that some Chinese institutions had become increasingly aware that Hong Kong's sophisticated economy could be effectively used rather than just milked.

It was Hong Kong's change from being a mainly manufacturing centre to the world's third most important financial centre and a rich source of investment and equity funds that had altered its economic relationship with China, the sources said.

Yet, they said China's political

investment by Chinese companies through mainland banks in the colony, bankers sources said.

Rough estimates from known sources put Chinese property interests in Hong Kong at over 3.4 billion dollars (\$510 million).

On the other side, Hong Kong Chinese have invested at least 2 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$256 million) in mainland ventures over the last few years, the sources said.

Some competitive mainland firms are making tentative steps to use as a source of venture capital Hong Kong's volatile stock market, which grew from its solid manufacturing base and an absence of regulatory mechanisms.

The colony's foreign exchange markets grew with the arrival of international banks and a lifting of exchange controls and it is arguable whether Hong Kong can continue much as it is without the services these markets provide.

# British monarch says modern technology should aid the poor

LONDON (R) — Queen Elizabeth said Saturday modern technology should be harnessed to bridge the gap between rich and poor countries, describing that gap as the greatest problem facing the world.

"We shall not begin to close this gap until we hear less about nationalism and more about interdependence," she added in her traditional Christmas message to Britain and the Commonwealth.

The 57-year-old monarch, speaking with a model of the U.S. space shuttle on her Buckingham Palace desk, said the world technological and communications revolution had touched the lives of most people in the world.

"In spite of all the progress that has been made the greatest problem in the world remains the gap between rich and poor countries," she added.

"What we want to see is still more modern technology being used by poorer countries to provide employment and to produce primary products and components, which will in turn be bought by the richer countries at competitive prices," she said.

The queen, who marked the 30th anniversary of her coronation in June, praised the spirit



Queen Elizabeth II

of cooperation in the 48-member Commonwealth and said one its main aims was to contribute towards addressing the economic balance between nations.

Paying tribute to development in India, the host of last month's Commonwealth leaders' summit, she added that advances such as the space shuttle had changed most people's lives.

"Leaders and specialists can meet and discuss political and technical problems: News travels faster and there is more of it: new opportunities for world trade have been opened up by this communication revolution," she said.

But she added that in spite of these advances the age-old problems of human communication remained.

"We have the means of sending and receiving messages, we can travel to meetings in distant parts of the world, we can exchange experts: But we still have difficulty in finding the right message to send," she said. "We can still ignore

newspaper broke an embargo on the pre-recorded message, calling that section of it jingoistic.

This year, she concentrated on the ease of modern travel and communication, saying modern technology had touched most aspects of life throughout the world.

"We saw this in dramatic form in India," she said, recalling that 22 years ago she had seen some of the problems India faced.

"Since then, the population has grown from 440 million to over 700 million, yet India has managed to become one of the 10 or so leading industrial nations in the world and has become self-sufficient in food," she said.

The queen said she had been heartened by real progress through Commonwealth cooperation. "There is a flow of experts in all directions, with Canadians helping in the Caribbean, Indians in Africa, New Zealanders in India, Australians in Papua New Guinea, British in Kenya. The list is endless."

She urged the members of the Commonwealth to make the most of the world-wide comradeship it offered and communicate as friends in tolerance and understanding.

The queen's message last year sparked controversy in Britain even before it was broadcast because it paid tribute to British forces which recaptured the Falkland Islands from Argentina.

The communist Morning Star

army forces were untrue. Gen. Anton said in an interview with Reuters and two other journalists.

He described reports that the deaths totalled up to 4,000 as exaggerated. He said there had been a tough crackdown on a new breed of western-inspired criminal since he became police chief in January, resulting in a sharp fall in the national crime rate.

The newspaper said the reprimand was sent to President Reagan with a Dec. 31 deadline to file notice of withdrawal. The State Department would not comment on the report.

The Times said U.S. officials had complained about UNESCO's anti-Western positions.

## Sri Lankan emergency extended

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka's state of emergency has been extended until Jan. 17 to combat guerrilla attacks and prevent a recurrence of ethnic violence in which nearly 400 people were killed five months ago.

Parliament Friday night voted 129-0 for the extension after Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa said guerrilla violence was continuing in the northern and eastern provinces.

Earlier Parliamentary Affairs Minister Vincent Perera read out a list of robberies of banks and post offices and thefts of cash and jewellery by armed guerrillas during the past month.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
© 1983 Tribune Company Syndicate, Inc.

### CHOOSE YOUR LOSER

Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ 4  
♥ Void  
♦ KJ975  
♦ J1087654

**WEST** EAST  
♦ A105 ♦ 32  
♥ 109542 ♦ 8763  
♦ 843 ♦ A9106  
♦ AK ♦ Q93

**SOUTH**  
♦ KQJ9876  
♥ AKQJ  
♦ 2  
♦ 2

The bidding:  
South West North East

2 ♦ Pass 2 NT Pass

4 ♦ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♦.

You do not have to go along with the nefarious schemes that the defenders have planned for you. You are entitled to take countermeasures!

While South was a trifle weak for a demand bid in terms of point count, there was no gainsaying the playing strength of his holding. Note that North does not have a positive response, despite his distributional

features, and that he can't bid over four spades without getting his side too high.

West led the ace of clubs and continued with the king. Declarer ruffed and led the king of spades. West won and shifted to a low diamond.

East won and led the queen of clubs, and that was that. If declarer ruffed low, West would overruff. If he trumps high, West's ten would be promoted to the setting trick.

Declarer should have been aware of the possible trump promotion — that was the principal threat to his contract. And there was a way to prevent it — a loser-on-loser play.

After ruffing the second club, declarer should have entered dummy by ruffing a heart. Now declarer leads a club from the board and discards his diamond loser.

The defenders can do what they will — they have their three tricks and can get no more. Declarer wins any return and forces out the ace of trumps. He gets back to his hand with a heart or a ruff, draws the outstanding trumps and claims his contract.

Live animals were sacrificed and offered up to the Norse Gods Odin and Freya to win their favour and secure good crops — a possible forerunner of Christmas present.

Alcohol, too, appears to have been an essential part of the early festival for the beer and mead-swilling northerners.

Norse sagas invariably connect "Jol" to drink, pre-empting the alcohol-induced high spirits of the modern Christmas that would have been frowned upon by Puritan Christian ancestors.

The origin of Christmas biscuits with special shapes may also lie in an old Scandinavian custom in

which the nisse are mentioned in an ancient Icelandic saga as household mascots who advise and protect families, in direct contrast to the evil trolls who leave a trail of destruction.

And the idea has turned full circle: An English company has started a "santaland project" in the Swedish town of Mora which it says will provide a permanent home for Santa Claus.

One of its functions will be a "dial direct" line to father Christmas — a modern answer to the stacks of mail addressed to "Santa Claus, North Pole" that Scandinavian post offices receive every year.

# Angolan rebels hold back Czech captives

PRETORIA (R) — Angolan rebels say they are freeing all their foreign captives except Czechoslovaks as a goodwill gesture for Christmas.

A spokesman for UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) fighting the Marxist rulers in Luanda said the captives were to have been handed over to the International Red Cross at a rebel camp Friday.

But it was not immediately clear whether the handover had taken place. Informed sources in South Africa said a substantial number might be released shortly after Christmas.

UNITA, which controls large sections of the bush in southern Angola, reported this week capturing 18 Brazilians, Portuguese, Spanish, Polish, Japanese, Filipinos and Italian nationals.

A spokesman said in Lisbon that five Britons taken last month would also be among those freed.

The release of about 20 Czechoslovaks — among 45 captured last June — has apparently been held up because of attempts to exchange them for prisoners held by the Angolan government.

A UNITA communiqué said the government had refused to agree on a swap and the Cze-

choslovaks were being held pending further discussion with the Red Cross.

Two Canadian missionary nurses meanwhile arrived in South Africa from Angola, after being held captive for several weeks in the Angolan bush, in an apparent preliminary to the release of UNITA captives.

## S. Indian rains kill 17

NEW DELHI (R) — At least 17 people have been killed and hundreds of village huts were flattened in heavy rains over the past two days in the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu, state officials said Saturday.

Floodwaters submerged a large belt of rice fields and thousands of villagers whose homes were threatened were moved to higher ground.

Officials in Madras said several rivers in the Cauvery Delta area had burst their banks, but floods were draining swiftly.

Most of the victims were killed when rain-soaked walls collapsed onto sheltering villagers.

# COLUMNS 7&8

## Rolls Royce car shortage hits U.S.

NEW YORK (R) — Really big U.S. spenders are having a shopping problem this Christmas. There is a Rolls-Royce shortage. The very rich are fond of buying the hand-crafted cars, costing \$100,000 or more, as gifts for their loved ones. Wealthy ranchers, industrialists, pop stars, doctors, dentists and sportsmen have made the United States the main market for the cars, which take up to five months to build. A five-week strike in England this autumn caused a shortage. Rolls-Royce spokesman Reg Abbott told Reuters: "Some dealers will deliver the car gift-wrapped with red and white satin bows on the hood (bonnet). There is now a chronic shortage of Rolls-Royce cars in the United States. During the strike we lost about 240 cars which would have been here for the Christmas trade."

## Salvation Army at odds with New York

NEW YORK (R) — The Salvation Army, whose brass bands are a traditional part of Christmas in New York, has run afoul of a city ban on discrimination against homosexuals. The city is threatening to withdraw \$5 million worth of contracts it has with the Salvation Army to run day care and old people's centres because the army will not sign a pledge saying it does not discriminate against homosexuals. All city contractors were required as of January last year to sign the pledge as part of an order by Mayor Edward Koch. Lt. Col. Roland Schram, the army's chief of New York operations, said: "We do not discriminate against hiring homosexuals, but we just cannot sign the pledge as a matter of our national policy."

## King Tut's curse falls on Lloyds

LONDON (R) — The curse of Tutankhamun struck Lloyds of London in the form of a heavy insurance bill after a television company was jinxed while making a film about the ancient Egyptian boy king. A judge ruled that the company, forced to delay filming at Luxor in Egypt in 1979 when an actor broke his leg, could recover damages from the insurance house. The film recounted the 1922 British expedition to Luxor to open Tutankhamun's treasure-packed tomb, inscribed with a curse promising death to all who entered. Actor Ian McShane, playing a member of the expedition, managed to throw himself from a vintage car before it crashed over the edge of a plateau during filming and said it felt as if the car was pulled towards the ravine.

## Motorcycle ace faces tax suit

CLEVELAND, Ohio (R) — A \$1.6-million civil lawsuit against former motorcycle daredevil Evel Knievel and his wife Linda has been filed by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service for back taxes, interest and penalties. The government says the money is due for taxes from 1972 to 1976 when Knievel was making news and breaking bones with his death-defying stunts. Knievel said recently he grossed some \$200 million in his daredevil days, netting an estimated 35 to 40 million, but spent \$45 million.

## Bishop denies being kidnapped in Nicaragua

TEGUCIGALPA (R) — An American-born bishop has turned up in Honduras denying the Nicaraguan claims that he had been kidnapped by right-wing rebels.

He said the Miskito Indians had been planning to seek sanctuary in Honduras for several months. He intended to return to Nicaragua to continue his pastoral work.

Bishop Schaeffer disappeared from a Miskito Indian town in northern Nicaragua on Tuesday. The Nicaraguan government said he had been kidnapped by U.S.-backed anti-government rebels.

But he told reporters that he

## THE CHRISTMAS PUZZLE

Edited by Herb Ellerson

